



## Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

### Oil Well Ordinance Project No 2020-000246-(1-5) Case No RPPL2020000624

#### **SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND**

In response to the September 15, 2021 motion by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board), the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) prepared an ordinance to amend Title 22 – Planning and Zoning of the Los Angeles County Code. For the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, the proposed ordinance prohibits new oil wells and production facilities in all zones, designates existing oil wells and production facilities as nonconforming uses in all zones, and establishes regulations for existing oil wells and production facilities. The proposed ordinance does not apply to the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District, specific plans, nor uses operating under a valid discretionary permit. DRP will address these in future efforts.

A public hearing before the Regional Planning Commission on the proposed ordinance is scheduled for June 8, 2022. More information is available at: <http://planning.lacounty.gov/oilwell>.

#### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

##### **What is a nonconforming use? What does it mean when a use becomes nonconforming?**

A nonconforming use is a legally established use that is not permitted in the zone. Legally established nonconforming uses are regulated by Chapter 22.172 (Nonconforming Uses, Buildings and Structures). Nonconforming uses shall be discontinued and removed from their sites within 20 years, except when extended or revoked as otherwise provided in Title 22.

##### **What regulations will be added to existing oil wells and production facilities?**

The proposed ordinance adds the following regulations to existing oil wells and production facilities:

- Well and site signage
- Comment and complaint log
- Requirements for site maintenance
- Bonds for existing wells
- Standards for well plugging and abandonment and restoration

Regulations for site maintenance and well plugging and abandonment and restoration become effective on the date the ordinance goes into effect. Regulations for well and site signage and the comment and complaint log become effective one year after the ordinance goes into effect. Regulations for bonds become effective two years after the ordinance goes into effect.

##### **Who can I contact for more information or to submit comments?**

For more information or to submit comments, contact the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning by e-mail at [ordinancestudies@planning.lacounty.gov](mailto:ordinancestudies@planning.lacounty.gov) or by telephone: (213) 974-6432.

